

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 CAIRO 09825 011327Z  
ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W  
-----076460 011333Z /17  
O 011319Z APR 78  
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7471  
INFO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

S E C R E T CAIRO 09825

EXDIS (DISTRIBUTE AS NODIS)

FOR ATHERTON AND SAUNDERS FROM EILTS

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PEPR EG IS US  
SUBJECT: CURRENT ISRAELI MISINFORMATION CAMPAIGN

REF: (A) STATE 81926, (B) TEL AVIV 4323

1. I UNDERSTAND OUR UNWILLINGNESS TO GET INTO A PUBLIC SLUGGING MATCH WITH ISRAELIS ON THEIR CURRENT EFFORTS TO DISTORT AND MISREPRESENT U.S. INTENTIONS AND POLICIES AND AGREE THAT IN THE FIRST INSTANCE A QUIET APPROACH BY SAM LEWIS OUGHT TO BE TRIED TO STRAIGHTEN OUT OFFICIALS SUCH AS YADIN AND DAYAN. EVEN MORE IMPORTANT WOULD BE TO TRY TO STOP SUCH SENIOR ISRAELI OFFICIALS FROM ENGAGING IN SUCH PUBLIC DISTORTIONS, BUT AM UNDER NO ILLUSION THAT THIS IS LIKELY TO BE POSSIBLE.

2. IF SUCH QUIET APPROACHES FAIL, AS I THINK THEY WILL, I HOPE WE WILL THEN NOT HESITATE TO GO PUBLIC OURSELVES IN REFUTING DISTORTIONS IF ISRAELIS CANNOT BE PREVAILED UPON TO DESIST. I AM VERY CONSCIOUS OF THE FACT THAT AFTER ABORTIVE MARCH 1976 TALKS, WE FAILED TO TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION TO COUNTER PUBLIC ISRAELI DISTORTIONS OF WHAT TOOK

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PLACE AT THAT TIME. RESULT WAS THAT BEFORE LONG ISRAELI ACCOUNTS DOMINATED NEWS PICTURE AND TOTALLY BECLOUDED WHAT HAD ACTUALLY HAPPENED. IT SEEMS TO ME ISRAELIS ARE NOW ENGAGED IN MOUNTING A SIMILAR EFFORT AND I WOULD HOPE THAT WE WILL NOT THROUGH SILENCE OR HESITATION GIVE THEM ANOTHER FREE SUCCESS AS WE DID LAST TIME.

3. STATEMENTS BY PRESIDENT CARTER, THE SECRETARY AND  
OTHER DEPT OFFICIALS HAVE BEEN HELPFUL, BUT THE PUBLIC  
RECORD SHOULD CONTINUE TO BE CORRECTED AS NEEDED. EILTS

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, PEACE, POLICIES, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, CAT-B  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 01 apr 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978CAIRO09825  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** EXDIS DIST AS NODIS, FOR ATHERTON AND SAUNDERS FROM EILTS  
**Executive Order:** OA  
**Errors:** n/a  
**Expiration:**  
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**Reference:** 78 STATE 81926, 78 TEL AVIV 4323  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014